News Notes

Base road construction

Construction to widen Douglas Avenue begins Monday. Douglas Avenue is the road beside the Brandon gate that runs by hardened avionics. People traveling to the east side of RAF Lakenheath may experience delays. Work is in progress for 10 weeks. For more information, call Ext. 1912.

British police conduct DNA testing

The Newmarket Police are conducting DNA testing of selected people who live in Studlands Park Estates and George Lampton Estates in Newmarket as part of a criminal investigation.

Residents who fit a certain profile will be contacted by mail and requested to provide a thumb print and oral swab DNA sample. All samples will be disposed of after the investigation is completed, according to the police.

"The DNA testing in completely voluntary," said Col. Rulon Brough, 48th Support Group commander. "We would, however, like complete cooperation to help solve this serious crime."

For more information, call the Newmarket Police Station at (01284) 774416.

19 Lakenheath officers selected for promotion

The following 48th Fighter Wing officers were selected for promotion.

To colonel:

George Horsel, 48th Dental Squadron; Michael Shedlosky, 48th DS; and Paul Ziaya, 48th Medical Operations Squadron

To lieutenant colonel:

Craig Flickinger, 48th DS; Jose Ibanez-pabon, 48th DS; Phyllida Paterson, 48th MDOS; Mark Harber, 48th MDOS; and Donald Meduna, 48th Medical Support Squadron

Tomajor:

Steven Maller, 48th DS; Anthony Vitali, 48th DS; William Lujan, 48th MDOS; and Richard Williams, 48th MDOS

Tocaptain:

Adrienne Ault, 48th MDOS; Beth Pavlovich, 48th MDOS; Amy Taylor, 48th MDOS; Susan Pietrykowski, 48th MDSS; David Deaton, 48th MDOS; April Quillin, 48th MDOS; and Michelle Vaughn, 48th MDOS

Engineer hotline to enhance customer communication

The 48th Civil Engineer Squadron activated a 24-hour customer action line Jan. 6.

People who dial Ext. 5546 can leave messages about any concern or question they have at any time of the day or night. Customers are encouraged, however, to try working issues with the appropriate office before using the hotline.

"We all have service call numbers and feedback forms that are the primary ways for our customers to obtain service and provide comments on that service," said Lt. Col. Steven Zander, 48th CES commander. "This new number is for those customers who have tried to use the system, and for some reason – red tape, contractual problems, no apparent reason – cannot obtain satisfaction. The customer is essentially frustrated, probably angry. These messages will go straight to the squadron commanders who make things happen."

The voice-mail menu allows people to address several topics including maintenance programs, environmental programs, construction projects and administrative functions.

"We have given ourselves a 48-hour suspense to address the action lines," Zander said. "Customers should attempt to use the routine customer service numbers first, and please keep in mind, this isn't a number to call for emergency services."

AAFES changes returned check processing Saturday

To reduce expenses, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service is outsourcing some returned checks beginning Saturday. The initial change is being made in all Europe locations and some continental United States exchange locations.

AAFES has contracted with the National City Processing Company to handle customer and commander notifications on all checks returned to AAFES. They also process payments made during the 60-day period following the return of the check. AAFES does continue to handle collection procedures for dishonored checks not paid within 60 days. These procedures include involuntary collection requests through servicemembers' paying finance office and tax refund offsets.

There are some banks that use a "second presentation" procedure, which requires them to hold a check that doesn't clear for a number of days and represent it a second time, according to AAFES. When outsourcing is implemented, second presentation will be eliminated.

Air Force extends wear of olive field jacket

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas (AFNS)—Fewer camouflage field jackets in stock has extended the life of the Air Force's olive field jacket by six months.

The olive drab jacket was earmarked to remain in the closets of servicemembers as of Jan. 1 after the service's uniform board in November 1991 opted to switch to the camouflage jacket now issued. The new phase-out date is July 1.

"The field jacket is an organizational clothing item and each organization issues the jacket at no cost to the servicemember," explained SSgt. Keith Lawrence, Air Force Personnel Center's commanders' program branch. "Members who currently have a olive field jacket will not automatically get it replaced; commanders replace these jackets based on need."

Uniform experts here remind military members that the single and double-breasted all-weather coat is an authorized outergarment with the battle dress uniform.

For more information, call Lawrence at DSN 487-3415. (Courtesy AFPC News Service)

Liberty Warrior

"Can do" person of the week



Photo by A1C Grace Hunt

SSgt. Scott McLernon

48th Operations Support Squadron

Hometown: Oxnard, Calif. **Time in service:** 11 years

Time on station: Two years, eight months

Role in mission: I am an aircraft maintenance scheduling craftsman working as the 48th Fighter Wing time compliance technical order monitor.

Hobbies: I like computers, sports of all sorts, fishing, camping, hunting and martial arts.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years? Retired and owning my own business in the United States.

What would you do to make things better at RAF Lakenheath? I would open the communication channels wider from the upper supervisory levels to the worker levels. Many of the "worker-bees" have some great ideas on how to improve things in their own working areas.

What is your greatest achievement? Getting this girl in high school to go out with me after one-and-a-half years of trying. That girl is now my wife, Theresa McLernon.

Why did you join the Air Force? To do my part in defending the United States and the opportunities that were given at the time.

What do you like best about the Air Force? The planes. Ever since I was a little kid, I've loved airplanes.